



# News Release

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## ***New York Small Business Persons and Champions of the Year Being Sought by the SBA***

**New York, NY---** The New York District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration is soliciting nominations for the New York State *2009 Small Business Person of the Year* and nine other small business categories. Winners from each of the 50 states will go on to compete for the country's most prestigious small business award--- *National Small Business Person of the Year*.

For this award the SBA is seeking companies that have demonstrated growth, success, job creation and/or retention and community involvement. The winner will be honored at a ceremony in New York City in May and then be invited to attend the Presidentially declared National Small Business Week ceremony in Washington, DC.

The SBA is also searching for nominees in the categories of: Family-Owned Small Business of the Year; Young Entrepreneur of the Year; and Small Business Exporter of the Year.

To honor advocates of the small business community nominations are being sought for: Small Business Journalist; Financial Services Champion; Minority Small Business Champion; Veteran's Small Business Champion; Home-Based Business Champion; and Women in Business Champion.

"We are looking to our elected officials, economic development partners and individuals in New York City, Long Island and the downstate counties of Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester to nominate the best and most deserving small businesses and champions for these awards," said Jaye Weisman, SBA district director in New York.

### **The postmark and hand-delivery deadline for nominations is November 21, 2008.**

Nominations should be submitted to Ana Hernandez, U.S. Small Business Administration, 26 Federal Plaza, Rm. 3100, New York, NY, 10278. Nomination criteria, guidelines and forms can be accessed at <http://www.sba.gov/nominationsguidelines>. Self-nominations are permitted. Questions may be directed to Ms. Hernandez at 212-264-9487.

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